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Message Text

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11
ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 CAB-09

COME-00 EB-11 FAA-00 DOTE-00 OIC-04 SY-10 DRC-01 /137 W
---------- 050088
O R 101030Z SEP 73
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 666
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSOCW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMCONSUL MONTREAL
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 9365

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ICAO, ETRN
SUBJECT: ICAO AIR SECURITY CONFERENCE: ISRAELI LETTER ON
SEIZURE ANTI-AIRCRAFT MISSILES IN ROME

MONTREAL FOR US REP ICAO

FROM AMBASSADOR ROUNTREE

REF: (A) STATE 179029 (B) PARIS 23770

1. QUESTION OF HOW ROME AND PARIS INCIDENTS MIGHT
MOST EFFECTIVELY BE DEALT WITH BY USDEL IN ROME MTGS HAS,
OF COURSE, BEEN MUCH IN OUR MINDS. WHILE THESE INCIDENTS
ARE WIDELY DISCUSSED AMONG DELEGATIONS IN CORRIDOR AND
PRIVATE, IN THE ABSENCE OF OCCASION FOR GENERAL STATEMENTS,
THEY HAVE NOT THUS FAR BEEN MENTIONED SPECIFICALLY IN
ASSEMBLY OR CONFERENCE. ISRAELI AMBASSADOR MAY HAVE
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INTENDED TO RAISE MATTERS IN ASSEMBLY ON SEPT 7 BUT

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THREE MINUTE RULE PREVENTED HIM FROM REACHING BULK OF
HIS PREPARED SPEECH. IN MY INTERVENTION IN CONFERENCE
SEPT 6 I SAID URGENCY OF ACTION IN ROME INCREASED BY
EVENTS OF RECENT PAST, WITHOUT SPECIFYING THEM. THIS
HAS BEEN TAKEN WIDELY AS REFERENCE TO PARIS AND ROME
INCIDENTS.

2. USDEL INTENTION WAS TO MENTION INCIDENTS SUB-
SEQUENTLY IN CONTEXT NEED FOR CONCERTING AGAINST THREATS
TO CIVIL AVIATION, BUT IN WAY BEST CALCULATED TO CON-
TRIBUTE TO OBJECTIVES AT MTGS. WE WOULD HOPE AVOID DOING
SO IN MANNER WHICH WOULD MAKE IT APPEAR TO OSOLATE U.S.
AND ISRAEL, OR TO REOPEN ARAB/ISRAELI DEBATE WHICH COULD
AGAIN DOMINATE ROME PROCEEDINGS.

3. ISRAELI AMBASSADOR NAJAR THIS MORNING HANDED
HUFFMAN COPY OF LETTER TO PRESIDENT OF ASSEMBLY DIALLO
WHICH HE WAS URGING BE CIRCULATED OFFICIALLY BY ICAO TO
ALL DELEGATIONS. NAJAR SAID IF ICAO DID NOT CIRCULATE,
ISRAELI DEL WOULD DO SO ON ITS OWN. TEXT IN FRENCH
TRANSMITTED BY SEPARATE TEL. ENGLISH TEXT WILL FOLLOW
AS SOON AS AVAILABLE. NAJAR ASKED IF USDEL WOULD
IMMEDIATELY URGE DIALLO AND ICAO SECRETARIAT TO
CIRCULATE IT OFFICIALLY. HUFFMAN REPLIED MATTER WOULD
HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED IN WASHINGTON AND THAT NAJAR
ACCORDINGLY SHOULD NOT EXPECT IMMEDIATE ACTION BY USDEL.

4. NAJAR ALSO REQUESTED USDEL IMMEDIATELY APPROACH
ITALIAN GOVERNMENT AND REQUEST THAT IT NOTIFY ICAO OF
INDICTMENT ISSUED AGAINST PERSONS APPREHENDED WITH
ANTI-AIRCRAFT MISSILES. NAJAR SAID PERSONS WERE INDICTED
FOR ILLEGAL IMPORTATION OF ARMS QTE FOR PURPOSE OF CAUSING
A MASSACRE UNQTE. HE FELT LATTER PHRASE TRIGGERED
ITALIAN OBLIGATION UNDER ARTICLE 13 OF MONTREAL CONVENTION
TO REPORT TO ICAO COUNCIL ANY RELEVANT INFORMATION CON-
CERNING CIRCUMSTANCES OF OFFENSE AND ACTION TAKEN. NAJAR
SAID ISRAELI DEL HAD ALREADY APPROACHED ITALIAN DEL ON
THIS MATTER AND USDEL APPROACH WOULD BE VALUABLE.

5. NAJAR SAID MISSILE INCIDENT AGAIN UNDERLINED
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NECESSITY THAT THERE BE SPECIFIC COVERAGE OF THE QTE
AUTHORIZATION, ENCOURAGEMENT OR TOLERATION UNQTE BY STATES
OF UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE IF THERE IS TO BE ANY PROVISION
CONCERNING STATE INTERFEENCE WITH CIVIL AVIATION. (COMMENT:
PERVIOUS USDEL VIEWS THIS ISSUE CONTAINED ROME 9280.)
IN RESPONSE HUFFMAN SAID HE COULD NOT RPT NOT INDICATE AT
THIS TIME WHETHER USDEL COULD MAKE BILATERAL APPROACH TO
ITALIAN GOVERNMENT WHICH NAJAR HAD REQUESTED.

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6. USDEL REQUESTS INSTRUCTIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
IN ORDER RESPOND ISRAELI REQUEST. SINCE ISRAELI LETTER
APPEARS CERTAIN TO GENERATE CONTREVERSY IN ASSEMBLY SEPT 11,
USDEL ALSO REQUESTS GUIDANCE ON THIS MATTER. VOLPE

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